

The Contest JUG



NEWSLETTER OF THE
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB
34456 COLEVILLE PLACE
FREMONT CA 94546

APRIL 1984

NUMBER 143

PRESIDENT: K6HNZ VP/CC: K6KLY SECTY/TREAS: KC6D
DIRECTORS: W6OAT, W6SZN, K6TMB, N6TV JUG Post PROD: K6HNZ JUG EDITOR: K6RU
COMMITTEES: CQP - K6XO Awards - KA6ING PROGRAM - MEMBERSHIP - FINANCE

AWARDS/ELECTIONS BANQUET

COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

FRIDAY MAY 4, 1984

6:30 PM

MAY 4: ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET AND ELECTIONS. RICK'S SWISS CHALET. MAY 19-20: ARMED FORCES DAY. SEE JUG FOR TEAM DETAILS.

MAY 10: NCCC BoD MEETING, AJ6V MAY 26-27: CQ WW WPX CONTEST, CW

PRESIDENT KEN SAYS

OUR NEXT CLUB MEETING ON MAY 4 IS THE ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET.

TOM SCHILLER WILL BE THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND IT PROMISES TO BE A FUN EVENING. BE THERE TO PICK UP YOUR AWARDS. THERE ARE MANY, MANY TO BE HANDED OUT. THIS IS ALSO THE MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS. ON A FOLLOWING PAGE IS A LIST OF DEDICATED CONTEST CLUBBERS WHO HAVE AGREED TO BE NOMINATED, AND TO SERVE IF ELECTED. NOMINATIONS WILL OF COURSE BE OPEN AT THE MEETING. DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT MEETING.

THE MARCH JUG CONTAINED AN OFFICIAL NOTICE OF FOUR PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENTS. THIS ISSUE CONTAINS A BALLOT FOR YOUR VOTE ON THE AMENDMENTS. FOLLOWING THE EXISTING BY-LAWS TO THE LETTER, WE CAN COLLECT BALLOTS AT THE MAY 4 MEETING, BUT VOTING WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL MAY 24 (30 DAYS AFTER MAILING OF THE BALLOTS WITH THE APRIL JUG). A TWO-THIRDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE RECEIVED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF DISTRIBUTION SHALL CONSTITUTE ACCEPTANCE OF THE AMENDMENT. THOSE WHO WISH TO PRESENT THEIR POINTS OF VIEW ON THE AMANDMENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO AT THE MAY 4 MEETING. THE INTENDED PURPOSE OF THE AMMENDMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE III SECTION 7. TO ESTABLISH A PROCEDURE FOR REINSTATEMENT OF FORMER MEMBERS

ARTICLE III SECTION 6. TO CLARIFY AND FORMALIZE A PROCEDURE TO DENY CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP TO ANY MEMBER WHOSE CONDUCT IS DETRIMENTAL TO THE CLUB.

ARTICLE VIII SECTION 1. WILL ALLOW THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO SET THE DUES EACH YEAR.

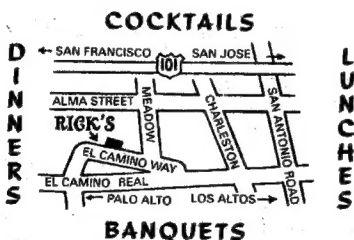
ARTICLE VII TO STREAMLINE THE PRESENT AMENDMENT PROCEDURE.

PRESIDENT KEN SAYS

THE APRIL MEETING WILL END MY YEAR AS PRESIDENT AND IT IS APPROPRIATE TO REVIEW OUR ACTIVITIES OF THE PAST YEAR. WE SUBMITTED A COMBINED SCORE OF 115,007,024 POINTS IN THE CQ WW DX CONTEST CLUB COMPETITION. ONLY TIME WILL TELL IF THIS IS ENOUGH TO WIN, BUT EITHER WAY IT WAS AN EFFORT WE CAN BE PROUD OF. THE HIGH CLAIMED SCORES SHOULD BE PUBLISHED SOON AND I EXPECT THEY WILL SHOW NCCC MEMBERS AS WORLD HIGH SINGLE OPERATOR PHONE AND MULTI-MULTI PHONE AND USA HIGH SINGLE OPERATOR PHONE. AS ALWAYS OUR CQP WAS A BIG SUCCESS IN SPITE OF WORSENING BAND CONDITIONS. WE HAD A GREAT PICNIC AT N6RO AND A SUPER CHRISTMAS BANQUET. THE CONTEST JUG WAS DONE IN STYLE BY K6RU AND WE ARE IN GOOD SHAPE FINANCIALLY. ALL IN ALL A GOOD YEAR FOR NCCC.

I MUST THANK LAST YEARS OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR THEIR TIME AND EFFORTS AND NEAR PERFECT ATTENDANCE AT BoD MEETINGS. THEY ARE VP/CC K6KLY, SECT/TREAS KC6D, AND DIRECTORS W6OAT, W6SZN, K6TMB AND N6TV. THEIR EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF OUR CQ WW ACTIVITY WAS PARTICULARLY VALUABLE. THANKS ALSO TO K6XO AS CQP ORGANIZER AND KA6ING WHOSE HARD WORK ON OUR AWARDS PROGRAM WILL BE HIGHLY VISIBLE AT OUR MAY 4 BANQUET. SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR EDITOR K6RU AND CONGRATULATIONS ON HIS RECENT CALIFORNIA AWARD FOR ZK2RU. THANKS ALSO TO N6RO AND JEAN FOR THEIR HOSPITALITY AT PICNIC TIME.

73, KEN K6HNZ

BANQUET INFORMATION

TIME: FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1984
COCKTAILS AT 6:30 PM. DINNER
AT 7:45 PM.

PLACE: Rick's Swiss Chalet - SEE
ABOVE.

DINNER MENU: CHOICE OF ENTREE-
1) CHICKEN, CORDON BLEU.
2) BRAISED POT ROAST OF BEEF.
PLUS SALAD, VEGETABLE, ROLLS,
DESSERT, BEVERAGE.

PLEASE ADVISE EITHER LOUESE, KA6ING
OR KEN, K6HNZ OF YOUR CHOICE OF
ENTREE BY MONDAY, APRIL 30.

PRICE: \$10 INCLUDING TAX AND TIP.

1984-1985 NOMINATIONS

FOR PRESIDENT:	ED RADLO, AJ6V
FOR VP/CC:	BOB WILSON, N6TV
FOR DIRECTORS	RUS BENTSON, W6KLY
	LOU BEAUDET, K6TMB
	BOB VALLIO, W6RGG
FOR SECT/TREAS	STILL SEARCHING

BUZZPHRASE COMPUTER

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0. Balanced	0. Policy	0. Contingency

INSTRUCTIONS:

The computer is simple to use. Take any three-digit number and select the three corresponding buzz words from columns A, B, and C. Combine them to produce a buzzphrase, which, when used in proposals, reports, or conversation, is guaranteed to surround you with an aura of authority which will bamboozle everyone.

ARMED FORCES DAYMAY 19, 1984

April is here, and May is right around the corner. It is again time to assemble a team to make another years trek to the largest radio station any of us may ever have the opportunity to operate. I'm speaking of the U.S. Naval Communications Station for the San Francisco Bay Area. The operating positions are all at the U.S. Naval Communications Receiving Station at Skaggs Island, Sonoma, CA. Located just off of Highway 37 (the Black Point Highway) West of the Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo. The event is the 35th Annual Armed Forces Day Military to Amateur Crossband Communications Test. We will again be sharing the operation with the Marin Amateur Radio Club, The Valley Of The Moon Amateur Radio Club, The North Bay Amateur Radio Association, and the Solano Amateur Radio Club. Our team is assigned for the full duration of the event, 1300UTC, May 19th, 1984, to 0245 UTC, May 20th, 1984, to operate on 20998.5KHz CW, and 21460.0KHz USB. We will also be assigned the honor of operating the first 30 meter, sanctioned operating event, during the afternoon shift, transmitting on 9991.5KHz, listening in the 10100-10150 segment, exclusive of the forbidden window 10109-10115. We have also been asked, if we can, to provide some back-up operator capability, for relief operators for for 7301.5 KHz LSB, and 4010 KHz CW, during the early evening. As you may or may not know, the military stations compete with each other for the greatest number of contacts during the event. NPG, the Skaggs Island Station, has always been a high scoring station. The transmitting station for the event is the U.S. Naval Transmitting Station at Dixon, CA, and the transmitters are much larger than those usually allowed to the holders of Amateur Radio Licenses. The military stations will be transmitting on their military frequencies, just outside the Amateur bands, and they will be listening in the Amateur bands, and will specify their listening frequencies in their call sequences. Competing against us in this event will be AIR, the 2045th Communications Group, Andrews Air Force Base, Washington, DC, NAM, Naval Comm. Station, Atlantic Area, Norfolk, VA, NAV, HQ Navy-Marine Corps MARS, Cheltenham, MD, NMH USCG, Alexandria, VA, NMN, USCG, Portsmouth, VA, NPL, Nav Com Sta, San Diego, CA, NZJ, USMCAS, El Toro, CA, and WAR, HQ Army MARS, Fort Meade, MD.

NCCC operators who wish to join this effort should be prepared to be at the Naval Comm. Station at Skaggs Island at 0530 Local time on May 19th, 1984. If possible they should bring an amateur band receiver. (Coordinate this with me prior to the event) My home and work phone numbers are in the NCCC Roster. If you bring a transceiver, the transmitter output stage should be disabled so it cannot accidentally transmit a signal into the highly sensitive receiving antenna filtering equipment. Bring your favorite headphones, and any other operating aids you would normally use in a contest. Meals will be available, in the General Mess. (Good Navy Chow) at \$3.75 per meal. Come prepared to have an enjoyable day.

BERT COOK, K6CSL
AFD TEAM COORDINATOR

Contest Comments

N7DF

(Thanks Kansas City DX Club Newsletter)

Having been involved very seriously in contesting for the last several years and having served a term on the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee, I continue to get a lot of input from fellow amateurs about contests and contesting.

Probably the two most frequent subjects brought up are band crowding from contest operations and the inability of the "average" amateur to compete with the super stations. Another frequent subject that was brought up in correspondence to the CAC while I was a member was the difficulty that many operators had in operating a full 48 hours in some of the major contests that do not limit operating time.

Addressing the subject of band crowding during contests; the entire democratic system has always been based on the premise of majority rule. The same holds true for the use of the amateur bands. When 90% of the amateurs on a given band, by numeric ratio, are involved in a contest it stands to reason that they are entitled to occupy 90% of the band spectrum available. In actual fact the contests usually occupy far less than the proportionate share of the band. A typical case in point is twenty meters. Very little SSB contest operation ever takes place above 14.3 MHz. Similarly, in CW contests, the band above 7.050 is practically vacant. Of course, in an SSB contest the whole CW band remains free with the opposite holding true for a CW contest.

Most "serious" contest operators take great pains to avoid standard net frequencies and the check if a frequency is clear before they call CQ. What sometimes happens when a "super station" checks a frequency, is that he is heard loud and clear by someone on the frequency while he is totally unable to hear that station in return. This is simply the difference between a kilowatt and a high multi-element array and 60 watts and a dipole. Of course, not hearing a return to his query he will go ahead and use the frequency. It is unfortunate that this should be so because it invariably leads to the charge that "the big fellows act like they own the band". The only solution is for the "little fellows" to improve their stations so they can be heard.

This leads to the next subject of the "super stations" always winning. The best comparison here would be to consider someone who wants to enter the Indianapolis 500 race but only owns a Volkswagen Rabbit. He might consider it unfair that the "big guys" with their \$500,000 race cars can run circles around him and there is no chance for him to win. It's true, of course. He has no chance of winning top place in a major event; but, there are lesser races where he can compete on an equal footing with other people who are in similar circumstances as he. Those "super stations" didn't start out all that big. Every one of them began with a small station and kept building onto it. There are vast amounts of time, effort, and, yes, money invested in them, just as there is in the Indy car mentioned above. Very few can ever expect to be able to achieve the success, fame, and glory that are attached to "winning it big" in any field of endeavor. However, anyone can try to be the best in their own level of competition.

Even the third realm of concern mentioned above can be directly compared to competitive events outside amateur radio.

Consider the person who wants to run in the Boston Marathon and win. He spends endless hours jogging, performing exercises and carefully regulating his diet. His preparations can hardly be considered fun or exciting but, to him, the ability to compete is all-important. Unfortunately, no matter how hard a 45 year old person trains, there is no chance of his being competitive with a 25 year old. We were all young and in the prime of life, once, but there simply is no way to regain that lost youth. Instead we have to recognize that there is a new generation of young operators who will take the place of us "old fogies" that simply don't have it in us to go the whole distance anymore. Fortunately there are still activities that those of us approaching senior-citizen status can compete in with varying degrees of success. Even here, though, we must realize that winning requires dedication, and, not infrequently, sacrifices.

Amateur radio contesting has probably done more to advance the art of communications than any other single aspect of the hobby. The FCC has long recognized this fact. Why else would they permit it?

TNX: YCCC SCUTTLEBUTT

NCCC BALLOT

THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS ARE HERewith SUBMITTED FOR VOTE BY THE NCCC MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE VOTE ON EACH AMENDMENT SEPARATELY. ONCE YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR BALLOT, REMOVE THIS PAGE, FOLD IT IN THIRDS WITH KC6D's ADDRESS SHOWING, STAPLE THE PAGE TOGETHER AND MAIL IT BEFORE MAY 24, 1984.

Article III Section 7 (new section to be added)

Any person desirous of reinstatement to full membership shall make payment of prorated dues and be approved by the Board of Directors or may go through the regular new membership procedure outlined in Sections 3 and 4.

YES___ NO___

Article III Section 6 (to replace the present section)

Notwithstanding the other provisions of the By-Laws, continuing full membership shall be contingent upon active contest participation and good operating procedures. The qualifications of any member may be reviewed by the Board of Directors and reported at any regular membership meeting. Any member may be denied continuing membership upon:

1. Recommendation by the Board of Directors
2. An announcement in the Jug, and
3. A vote to deny continued membership by two-thirds of those present at the next regular meeting.

YES___ NO___

Article VIII Section 1 (to replace the present section)

Full Members, Associate Members, and Full-time Students shall pay annual dues as set by the Board of Directors each year. Dues are due 1 July each year.

YES___ NO___

Article VII (to replace the present article)

All amendments to the By-Laws shall require a written petition to the Secretary and have the signatures of at least five Full Members. A copy of the proposed amendment and a ballot shall be mailed to the eligible members. The Secretary shall specify a date not less than 30 days nor more than 75 days after the mailing by which the ballots must be received. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the ballots received shall be required for acceptance of the amendment.

YES___ NO___

BOB EHR, KC6D,
1282 PAMPAS DRIVE,
SAN JOSE, CA 95120

The Practical Contester

Fred Hopengarten, K1VR

TNX:YCCC

THE FALL SEASON, 1983

At the conclusion of each season, I try to capture a few things that I learned, or relearned. The real trick, however, is to consult the list *before* the next season. Here are this fall's thoughts:

- o I will try to avoid, forever, operating another contest without a step attenuator. This year, I added a Channel Master model 7270 (price: \$15.00) with 3, 6, and 12 dB steps. Combined with the 20 dB button in the TS-820, attenuation of 3 to 42 dB, in 3 dB steps, was available...and a real blessing. Note, however, that the Channel Master step attenuator is a 75 ohm device, and purists may worry about insertion loss. Since the object of an attenuator is to induce loss, this is a low-level concern.
- o Next time, I will prepare some high quality CQ tapes for phone, using a local friend at a broadcast station. There is too much difference between a recorded CQ using a cheap \$2.98 microphone (with a cheap Japanese tape recorder), and a human voice into a D-104.

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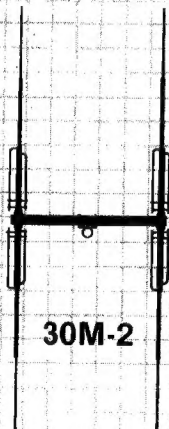
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Bandwidth: 10.1 to 10.150 MHz
Gain:
VSWR: **less than 1.5:1**
F/B:
Feed Impedance: **50 ohms**
Element length: **35'3"**
Boom: **3" O.D. x 12"**
Turn Radius: **18'6"**
Weight: **35 lbs**
Windload: **4 sq ft**

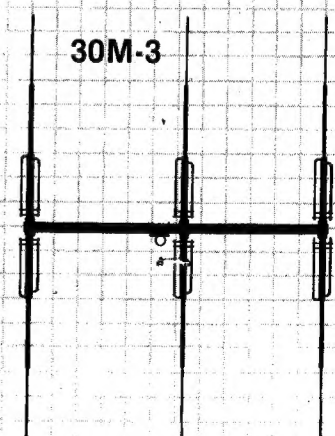
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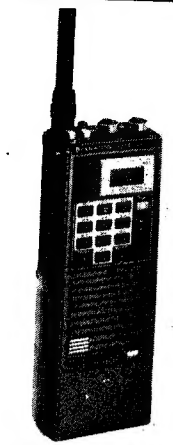
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**30M-3****30M-3: SPECIFICATIONS**

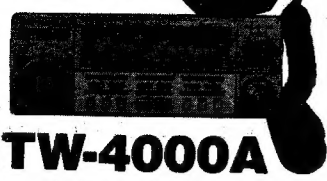
Bandwidth: 10.1 to 10.150 MHz
Gain:
VSWR: **less than 1.5:1**
F/B:
Feed Impedance: **50 ohms**
Element length: **35'3"**
Boom: **3" O.D. x 24"**
Turn Radius: **21'5"**
Weight: **50 lbs**
Windload: **7 sq ft**

11500



KENWOOD

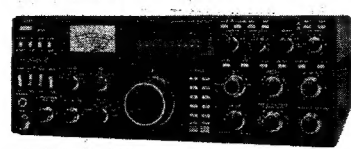
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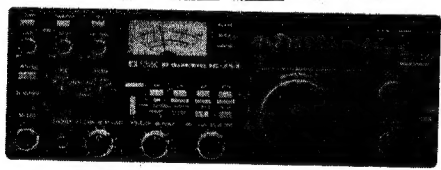
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